

## **THE STATE OF WASHINGTON 1915(b) PROGRAM**

Project Name:	Integrated Community Mental Health Program
Project Initial Approval:	July 1, 1993
Project Renewal Approval:	March 5, 2002
Project Renewal Expiration:	March 4, 2004

### **PROGRAM SUMMARY**

The State of Washington has operated the Integrated Community Mental Health Program under the authority of a 1915(b) waiver since 1993. The purpose of this waiver is to promote comprehensive coordination of mental health services through Prepaid Health Plans (PHPs), provide rehabilitation services, promote coordination of services with other systems of care, and assure service intensity commensurate with each individual's level of need. Services are provided through a capitated managed care system. The current waiver approval is effective for the two-year period from March 5, 2002 through March 4, 2004.

### **HEALTH CARE DELIVERY**

The capitated managed care system gives a regional authority, the PHP, the ability to provide Medicaid managed care services through a coordinated system of care and, as necessary, subcontract with entities which are capable, and willing, to provide high quality services to the recipients served by the PHP. Within this program, Washington contracts with several Prepaid Health Plans that agree to provide all medically necessary mental health services to Medicaid beneficiaries in their catchment area, under a full risk capitated arrangement. Under Washington State statutes, Regional Support Networks (RSNs) administer all community mental health services funded by the state. The majority of the PHP contracts are also county-based RSNs. Some of the RSNs have contracted out services to other managed behavioral health care components. As a county-based entity, the RSN is in a unique position to facilitate coordination and integration of mental health service responsibilities with alcohol/drug treatment, criminal justice systems, and developmental disability services.

### **BENEFIT PACKAGE**

Services paid for out of the capitation rate for this waiver include, but are not limited to, comprehensive Medicaid inpatient and outpatient community mental health rehabilitation services such as crisis intervention, stabilization services, intake evaluation, psychological assessment, medication management, individual therapy, group therapy, adult day treatment, adult acute diversion services, child/adolescent day treatment, child/adolescent acute diversion services, family therapy, and critical mental health services. Although pharmacy costs are paid for outside of the capitation rate, the benefit can be managed by the providers prescribing under the mental health waiver.

### **COST EFFECTIVENESS**

The waiver program is proven to be cost effective and continues to project savings during the

two years of the renewal.

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Updated – 7/9/03